



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

501.25507CX5

19/10/1998

Applicant(s): O. YOKOMIZO, et al

Serial No.: 08/470,424

Filed: June 6, 1995

For: FUEL ASSEMBLY AND NUCLEAR REACTOR

Group: 3600

Examiner: H. Behrend

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GROUP 3500

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 23, 1998

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application in light of the Group Director's Decision on Petition that the finality of the Office Action dated May 12, 1997 is vacated.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

--38. A method of operating a nuclear reactor having a reactor vessel and at least one fuel assembly loaded in a core arranged inside the reactor vessel, the at least one fuel assembly having an upper tie plate, a lower tie plate, a plurality of fuel rods having upper ends held by the upper tie plate and lower ends held by a fuel rod holding portion of the

03/30/1998 ASELMEN ~~memorandum~~ D&P:Data5, 0847024 plurality of fuel rods having a plurality
01 FC:102 82.00 CH
02 FC:103 44.00 CH